

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

SHARP POND

Joel and Erica Simmerman  
5560 Bridlepath Lane  
Florence, MT 59833

October 29, 2009

12/21/10

If the Sharp Pond is failing or failure seems imminent, call:

Ravalli County Sheriff..... 911

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Purpose

The purpose of this emergency action plan (EAP) is primarily to safeguard lives and secondarily to reduce property damage to the citizens of Ravalli County living near the town of Florence, and along Eight Mile Creek, in the event of flooding caused by a failure of Sharp Pond.

### B. Description of Dam

Sharp Pond is in Ravalli County, in Section 8, Township 10 North (T10N), Range 19 West (R19W), and located off Eight Mile Creek, a tributary of the Bitterroot River. It is owned by Joel and Erica Simmerman, 5560 Bridlepath Lane, Florence, MT 59833 and is used for irrigation and recreation purposes. Technical data pertaining to Sharp Pond and its structures are shown in Appendix A.

### C. Access to Dam

Sharp Pond is located on Bridlepath Lane about 1/4 mile south of Eight Mile Creek Road, a county road, about five miles east of Florence. The nearest telephone is at the home of Joel and Erica Simmerman (273-6631) at the head of Sharp Pond on Bridlepath Lane.

### D. Hazard Area

The evacuation area extends along Eight Mile Creek to a point about one mile downstream of Sharp Pond, as shown in Appendix B. Hazards include the possible inundation or isolation of occupied dwellings. Inundation and evacuation maps are in Appendix B.

### E. Responsibility and Authority

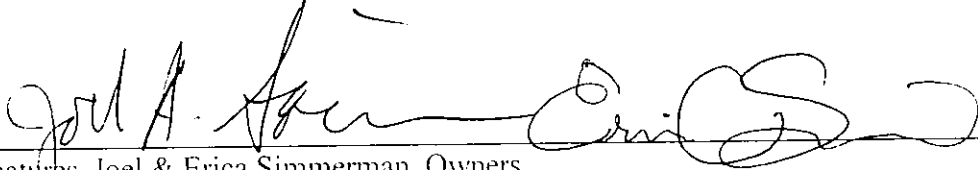
Pursuant to the Dam Safety Act, Chapter 15 of Title 85, MCA, the dam owner is responsible for production, coordination, maintenance, and implementation of this emergency action plan. The extent of owner implementation was defined through coordination of this plan with the Ravalli County Sheriff and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) coordinator.

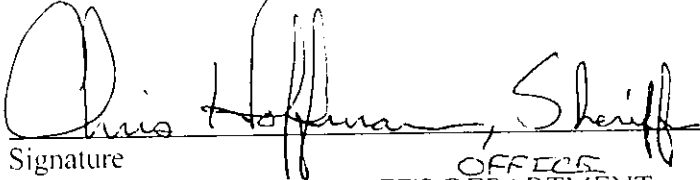
### F. Periodic Review/Update

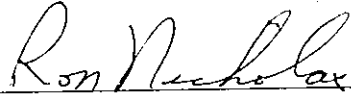
The owner will review/update this EAP annually. Review/update by a qualified professional engineer will be accomplished as required by the dam's operating permit, but no less than every five years.

G. Approval

By my signature, I acknowledge that I, or my representative, have reviewed this plan and agree to the tasks and responsibilities assigned herein for my department and/or agency.

 11/3/09  
Date  
Signatures, Joel & Erica Simmerman, Owners  
SHARP POND

 10-30-09  
Date  
Signature  
OFFICE  
RAVALLI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

 10-30-09  
Date  
Signature  
RAVALLI COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## II. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

### A. Imminent or Actual Failure

#### IF SHARP POND IS FAILING, TWO THINGS MUST BE DONE IMMEDIATELY:

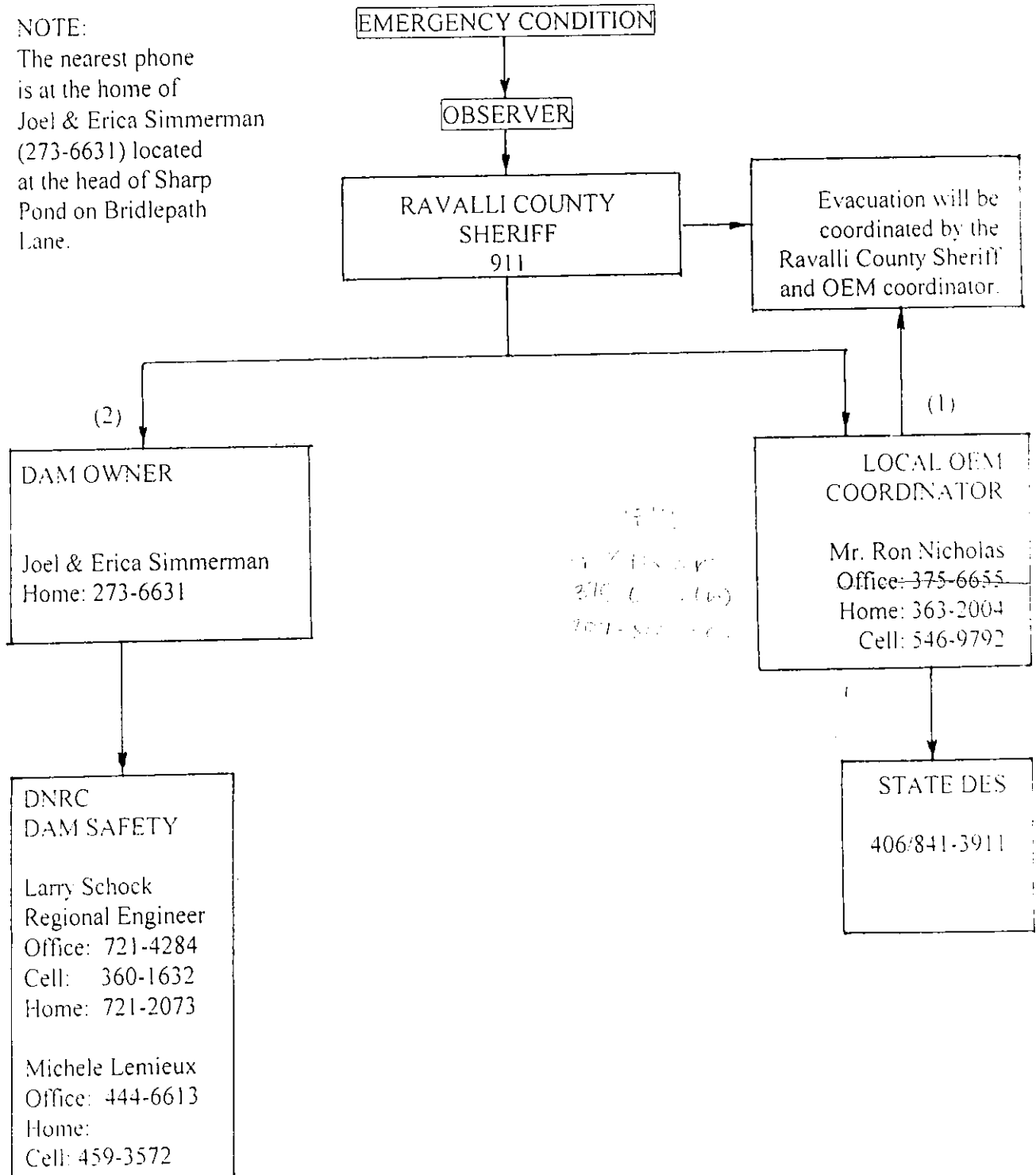
- (1) Residents in the hazard area downstream from the dam must be warned according to the County warning plan, and initiated as shown in Figure 1, and
- (2) any steps that might save the dam or reduce damage to the dam or hazard area downstream should be taken. (Refer to the map in Appendix B to determine the areas that are likely to be inundated if the dam fails).

FIGURE 1

SHARP POND  
ACTUAL OR IMMINENT FAILURE  
"NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART"

NOTE:

The nearest phone  
is at the home of  
Joel & Erica Simmerman  
(273-6631) located  
at the head of Sharp  
Pond on Bridlepath  
Lane.



As dam owner, it is your responsibility to:

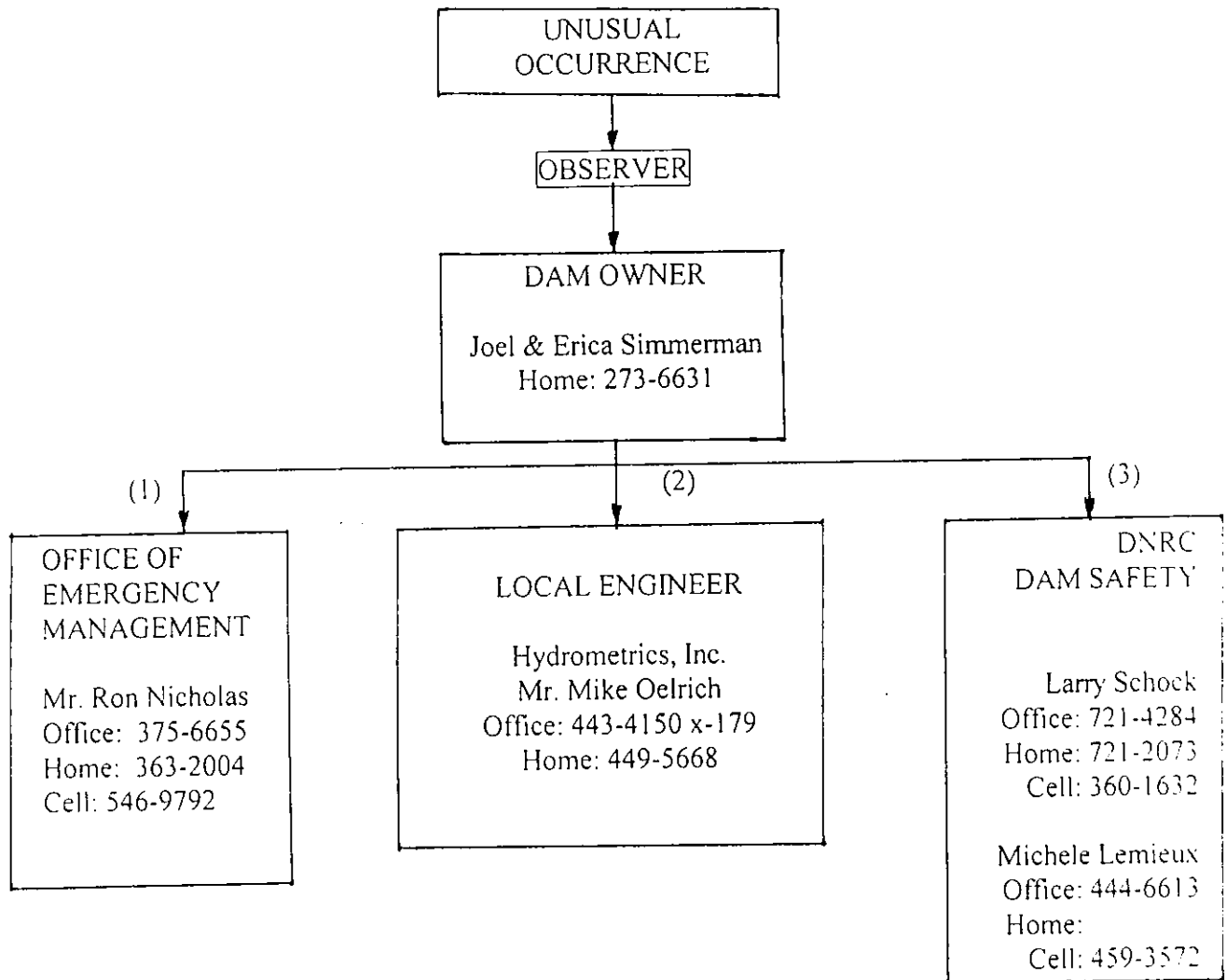
1. Call the Sheriff's Dispatch Center (911) and Office of Emergency Management (375-6655), if they have not already been notified. Be sure to say, "This is an emergency." They will call other authorities and the media and begin the warning plan.
2. Warn anyone in immediate danger to evacuate to safety. This includes someone on the dam, directly below the dam, or boating on the reservoir, or downstream evacuees, if so directed by the sheriff.
3. Contact the Office of Emergency Management staff at least once every hour. They may request your assistance in evacuating residents.
4. If all means of communication are lost:
  - a. Try to find out why
  - b. Get someone else to try to reestablish communications. If these means fail, take care of immediate problems and send someone to get to another radio or telephone that works.

B. Potentially Hazardous Situation

A potentially hazardous situation is an event or condition not normally encountered in the routine operation of the dam and reservoir. Among the unusual occurrences that may affect the dam are dam embankment problems (see section B.2.), failure of the outlet works, heavy precipitation or rapid spring snow melt, landslides, earthquakes, erosion, theft, vandalism, acts of sabotage, and serious accidents. These occurrences may endanger the dam, the public, or the downstream valley and may necessitate a temporary or permanent revision of the dam's operating procedures. Help in these situations can be obtained by notifying those people shown in Figure 2.

FIGURE 2

SHARP POND  
POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS SITUATION  
"NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART"



1. If the dam owner discovers an unusual condition of the dam embankment that could threaten the structure:
  - a. Have a qualified engineer inspect the dam as soon as possible to determine whether emergency action is necessary.
  - b. Notify the County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator (375-6655) of the potential problem.
  - c. Contact the Dam Safety Program (444-9362) of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).



2. Among the conditions the dam owner should watch for are:
  - a. Overtopping of the dam by flood waters
  - b. Loss of material from the dam crest due to storm wave erosion
  - c. Slides on either the upstream or downstream slope of the embankment as evidenced by
    1. Sloughing
    2. Cracking
    3. Bulging
    4. Scarping
  - d. Erosional flows through, beneath, or around the embankment as evidenced by
    1. Excessive seepage
    2. Discoloration of the seepage
    3. Boils on the downstream side
    4. Sinkholes
    5. Changes in the flow from drains
  - e. Failure of outlet due to clogging or erosion
  - f. Movement of the dam on its foundation as evidenced by
    1. Misalignment
    2. Settlement
    3. Cracking
3. Before calling either an engineer or DNRC to report a problem, the dam owner shall use the form in Appendix D to ensure sufficient information is provided for the engineer to analyze the problems. After talking to the engineer, it may be helpful to document the condition of the dam by making a sketch on the form in Appendix D, showing the extent of the problem. Revise the sketch periodically if the problem develops further. Section III includes further guidelines for courses of action to take mitigate the effect of many problems.

C. Posting of the Notification Flowchart and Distribution of the EAP.

The Notification Flowchart is posted at the dam and a copy of the EAP is in the pumphouse. The Ravalli County Sheriff's Office and the Ravalli County OEM Coordinator have copies of the plan.

### III. MITIGATION ACTIONS

Besides normal monitoring of the dam's condition, which is done at least monthly, the owner will provide continuous monitoring and inspection during and after extreme events such as storms and earthquakes. Information on the magnitude of an earthquake or storm can be obtained from the DNRC Dam Safety Program ~~(444-9362)~~. Actions are suggested below to mitigate problems that may develop, but those actions should never be continued at the risk of injury or at the expense of lessening efforts related to evacuation. Monitoring should identify any of the following potential problems.

#### A. Potential Problems and Immediate Response Actions

##### 1. OVERTOPPING BY FLOOD WATERS

- a. Place sandbags along the crest to increase freeboard and force more water through the spillway and outlet.
- b. Provide erosion-resistant protection to the downstream slope by placing plastic sheets or other materials over eroding areas.
- c. Divert flood waters around the reservoir basin, if possible.
- d. Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant.

##### 2. LOSS OF FREEBOARD OR DAM CROSS SECTION DUE TO STORM WAVE EROSION

- a. Place additional riprap or sandbags in damaged areas to prevent further embankment erosion.

##### 3. SLIDES IN THE UPSTREAM OR DOWNSTREAM SLOPE OF THE EMBANKMENT

- a. Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant to lower water level.
- b. Stabilize slides on the downstream slope by
  1. weighting the toe area with additional soil, rock, or gravel, and then
  2. restoring lost freeboard by placing sandbags at the crest.

4. EROSIONAL FLOWS THROUGH THE EMBANKMENT, FOUNDATION, OR ABUTMENTS
  - a. Plug the flow with whatever material is available (hay bales, bentonite, or plastic sheeting if the entrance to the leak is in the reservoir basin).
  - b. Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant to lower water level.
  - c. Place a protective sand-and-gravel filter or boil ring over the exit area to hold materials in place.
5. FAILURE OF OUTLET

Piping around outlet will result in a controlled breach. No mitigating measures are available.
6. MASS MOVEMENT OF THE DAM ON ITS FOUNDATION (SPREADING OR MASS SLIDING FAILURE)

Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant to lower water level.
7. EXCESSIVE SEEPAGE AND HIGH LEVEL SATURATION OF THE EMBANKMENT
  - a. Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant to lower water level.
  - b. Continue frequent monitoring for signs of slides, cracking or concentrated seepage.
8. EXCESSIVE SETTLEMENT OF THE EMBANKMENT
  - a. Create additional spillway capacity by making a controlled breach in a low embankment or dike section where the foundation materials are erosion-resistant to lower water level.
  - b. If necessary, restore freeboard, preferably by placing sandbags.

B. Emergency Supplies and Resources

A reclaimed gravel pit is located 500 feet west of the Sharp Pond and north of Eight Mile Creek. This pit is on property owned by the Sharp's and can be used as a source of pit-run gravel.

A clay pit is located on the south side of Eight Mile Creek directly across from the gravel pit. This pit is located on property owned by Bob Bielby and has been available as a source of clay recently. This property is currently being developed into residential lots and may not be available in the future.

C. Local Contractors and Engineers

Local Contractors:

Bill Walton	273-2817
Lyle Wilkinson	273-7807
Jim Campbell	273-0747

Engineer:

Hydrometrics, Inc.  
Mr. Mike Oelrich  
443-4150 x-179 (work)  
449-5668 (home)

## **APPENDICES**

## APPENDIX A Technical Data

## APPENDIX A

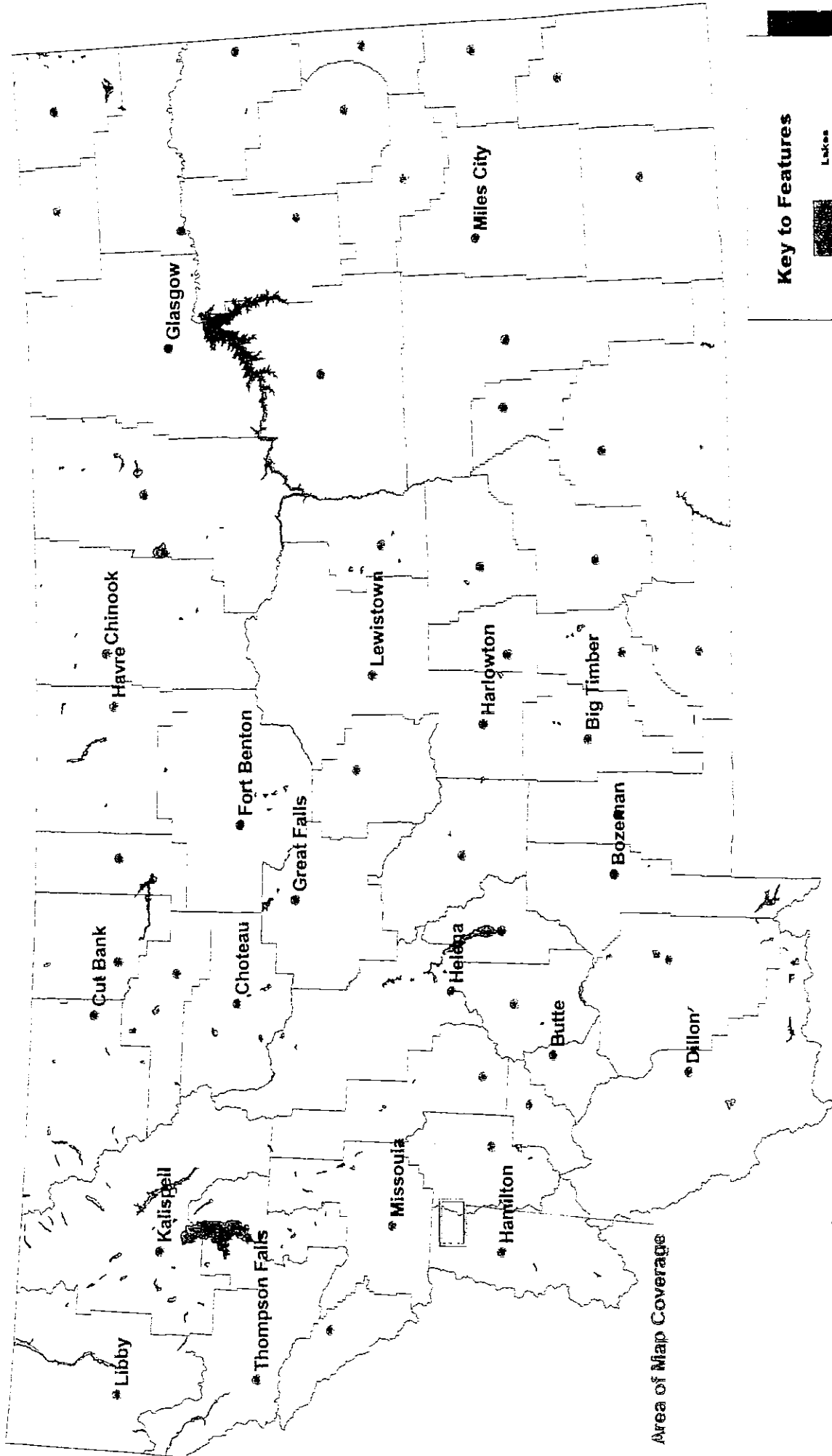
### Technical Data For Sharp Pond

Maximum Reservoir Capacity to the Crest of the Dam . . . . .	105 acre feet
Normal Reservoir Capacity Measured to the Emergency Spillway Crest . . .	80 acre feet
Normal Water Depth Measured from Bottom of Reservoir to the Crest of Outlet	19 feet
Dam Height Measured From Bottom of Reservoir to the Crest of the Dam . . . .	22 feet
Typical Dam Crest Width . . . . .	16 feet
Maximum Dam Width at Base . . . . .	160 feet
Length of Dam Crest (horse shoe shaped dike) . . . . .	2300 feet
Outlet Capacity . . . . .	12 cubic feet per second
Spillway Capacity . . . . .	350 cubic feet per second
Date Constructed . . . . .	estimate early 1960's
Typical Slope of Upstream Face of Dam (Horizontal to Vertical) . . . . .	4:1
Typical Slope of Downstream Face of Dam (Horizontal to Vertical) . . . . .	2:1




## APPENDIX B Inundation and Evacuation Maps

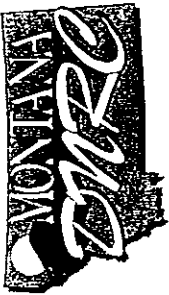


# Sharp Dam Overview Map



## Key to Features

-  Lakes
-  Cities
-  Counties



**Features**

- Inundation Area
- Cross-sections

**Map Labels:**

- Bitterroot River
- East Side Highway
- Lower Woodchuck Road
- Sharp Dam
- Eight Mile Creek
- Highway
- Scale: 0.5, 1 Miles
- Elevation points: 3280, 3320, 3376, 3648, 3514, 3295, 3332, 3320, 3280, 3270, 3260, 3250, 3240, 3230, 3220, 3210, 3200, 3190, 3180, 3170, 3160, 3150, 3140, 3130, 3120, 3110, 3100, 3090, 3080, 3070, 3060, 3050, 3040, 3030, 3020, 3010, 3000

## APPENDIX C Telephone Directory

*This  
Page updated  
2008*

Appendix C  
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

A. Priority One

1. SHERIFF Ravalli County ..... 911
2. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
  
Ravalli County ..... Office: 375-6655  
Mr. Ron Nicholas ..... Home: 363-2004  
Cell: 546-9792  
  
Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division (Helena) 841-3911
3. EVACUEES (in upstream-to-downstream sequence)  
  
Guy Sharp 273-2898  
Alan Gelman 273-0745  
Mark Hebert 273-6198 370-6198 cell  
Curt Anderson 273-9070  
Kelly Mikesell 273-2933  
Bart Pedersen 273-0285  
Robert Taylor 544-4679

B. Priority Two

4. LOCAL ENGINEERS  
  
Hydrometrics, Inc. .... Office: 443-4150 x-179  
Mr. Mike Oelrich ..... Home: 449-5668
5. MONTANA DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION  
  
Dam Safety Program Engineers  
Ms. Michele Lemieux, Soils and Embankments ..... Office: 444-6613  
Cell: 459-3572  
  
Water Operations Bureau ..... Office: 444-6816  
Mr. Laurence Siroky, Bureau Chief ..... Home: 442-2806  
Cell: 431-7475  
  
Missoula Regional Office ..... Office: 721-4284  
Mr. Larry Schock, Regional Engineer ..... Home: 721-2073  
Cell: 360-1632

6.	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	
	Helena .....	449-5204
	Great Falls.....	453-2081
	Billings.....	657-6988
7.	SHARP POND	
	Owners: Joel & Erica Simmerman.....	273-6631
8.	BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT.....	657-6561
9.	MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS.....	444-2074
10.	U.S. FOREST SERVICE	
	REGIONAL ENGINEERING OFFICE .....	329-3176

## APPENDIX D Dam Incident Report Form

APPENDIX D  
DAM INCIDENT REPORT FORM

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DAM    Sharp Pond

STREAM NAME    Eight Mile Creek

LOCATION            S. 8, T10N, R19W

COUNTY            Ravalli

OBSERVER \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVER TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF PROBLEM \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF PROBLEM AREA (Looking Downstream) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

EXTENT OF PROBLEM AREA \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FLOW QUANTITY AND COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WATER LEVEL IN RESERVOIR \_\_\_\_\_

IS SITUATION WORSENING? \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY STATUS \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT WEATHER CONDITIONS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX E Plan Distribution List



APPENDIX E  
Emergency Action Plan Distribution List

PLAN HOLDER	NUMBER OF COPIES
Pond Owners, Joel & Erica Simmerman .....	2
Ravalli County Sheriff.....	1
Ravalli County OEM Coordinator .....	1
DNRC Dam Safety Program .....	1
9-1-1 .....	1
Guy & Teri Sharp .....	1
National Weather Service - Great Falls.....	1
MT State DES Office - Helena .....	1